



Attorney Docket No. 33993/US  
Express Mail Label No. EV 423 774 628 US

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

Konrad Welfonder

Application No.: 10/777,377

Filed: 11 February 2004

For: CORD TENSIONER

Confirmation No.: 4599

Group Art Unit: 3634

Examiner: Not yet assigned

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(3) and § 1.98

Sir:

The Information Disclosure Statement submitted herewith is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office action on the merits.

The Examiner is requested to consider the references noted on the enclosed Form PTO-1449 during examination of the above-identified patent application. These references are submitted for the Examiner's consideration and are submitted pursuant to the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56. In submitting these references, no representation is made or implied that the references are or are not material to the examination of the application. The Examiner is encouraged to make his or her own determination of materiality. Pursuant to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office's July 11, 2003 waiver of the requirements of 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2)(i), copies of the United States patent references are not provided. Copies of the foreign patent references are provided.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3)(i), any information disclosure statement filed under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 shall include a concise explanation of the relevance, as it is presently understood by the individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) most knowledgeable about the content of the

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information, of each patent, publication or other information listed that is not in the English language. The concise explanation may be either separate from the specification or incorporated therein.

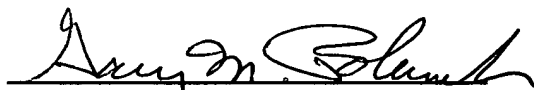
Japanese publication No. 60-88779 is not in the English language. Therefore, in compliance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3)(i), an English translation of the specification is attached to this reference, which is enclosed, to satisfy the requirement for a concise explanation of relevance.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(3), no fees are due with respect to this filing. However, if any fees are deemed necessary, such fees may be charged to Deposit Account No. 04-1415.

If the examiner has any questions, please contact the undersigned attorney.

Dated: 5-25-04.

Respectfully submitted,




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Enclosures  
cc: HDI and HDBV (HH-242.10-353)

<b>FORM PTO-1449 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE</b> (Modified) <b>PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE</b>  <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE</b> <b>STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>  (Use several sheets if necessary)	<b>ATTY. DOCKET NO.</b> 33993/US	<b>APPLN. NO.</b> 10/777,377
	<b>APPLICANT:</b> Konrad Welfonder	
	<b>FILING DATE</b> 11 February 2004	<b>GROUP</b> 3634



## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		PATENT NUMBER	ISSUE DATE	PATENTEE	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
		4,557,309	12/1985	Judkins	160	84 R	
		4,733,711	03/1988	Schon	160	84.1	
		5,168,913	12/1992	Haines	160	168.1	

## FOREIGN PATENT OR PUBLISHED FOREIGN PATENT APPLICATION

		DOCUMENT NUMBER	PUBLISHED DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
							YES	NO
		0 699 268	01/1997	EP				
		60-88779	05/1985	JP				

## OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)


EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.